

Patent
243/079

A-2

1. (amended) A stent, comprising:

a generally tubular body having a longitudinal axis and a circumference, and having a size adapted for introduction into a body lumen;

a plurality of cylindrical bands formed in the tubular body, each band comprising a generally zig-zag pattern comprising a series of sequential diagonal elements connected to one another and extending about the circumference, the diagonal elements having a generally arcuate shape, all diagonal elements in each band being oriented in either a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction about the circumference; and

a plurality of longitudinal connectors extending between and connecting adjacent bands, each longitudinal connector extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis.

A-3
12. (amended) A stent, comprising:

a generally tubular body having a longitudinal axis and a circumference, and having a size adapted for introduction into a body lumen;

a plurality of generally bat shaped cells formed in the tubular body, each cell defining a head region, a tail region and opposing curved wing regions, the head region of each cell being connected to the tail region of an adjacent cell; and

a plurality of connectors extending between and connecting adjacent cells, each connector extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis.

A-4

15. (amended) The stent of claim 14, wherein the tubular body comprises a plurality

of cylindrical bands, each cylindrical band comprising a sequence of bat shaped cells, adjacent

OC-54422.1

Patent
243/079

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cylindrical bands being connected to one another by connectors extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis.

A-5 19. (amended) The stent of claim 17, wherein each head region is defined by a longitudinal connector extending between the first arcuate members of the opposing wing regions of the respective cell, and the tail region is defined by a longitudinal connector extending between the second arcuate members of the opposing wing regions of the respective cell.

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A-6 21. (amended) The stent of claim 19, wherein the longitudinal connector defining the tail region also defines the head region of an adjacent cell.

A-7 22. (amended) The stent of claim 12, wherein the plurality of connectors comprise a longitudinal connector extending between a wing region of a first cell and a wing region of an adjacent cell.

REMARKS:

Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the above amendment before examination.